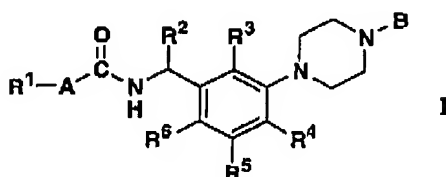


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What is claimed is:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of Formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof



wherein

R¹ is selected from the group consisting of pyridinyl, 3-quinolinyl, 2-thienyl,

C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl and phenyl optionally substituted with a substituent

independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, C₁₋₄ alkyl,

C₁₋₄ alkoxy, trifluoromethyl and trifluoromethoxy;

A is -CH=CH- or -(CH₂)_n;

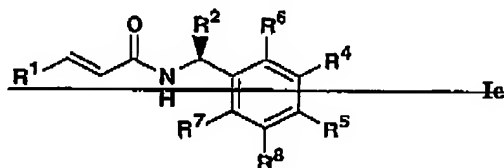
R² is C₁₋₄ alkyl, CF₃ or hydroxymethyl;

R³, R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ each are independently hydrogen or fluoro;

n is an integer of 1 or 2; and

B is 2-pyridinyl, 3-pyridinyl or 4-pyridinyl.

2. (Currently Amended) The compound of claim 1 having the Formula II or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof



wherein

R¹ is selected from the group consisting of pyridinyl, 3-quinolinyl, 2-thienyl,

C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl and phenyl optionally substituted with a substituent

independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, C₁₋₄ alkyl,

C₁₋₄ alkoxy, trifluoromethyl and trifluoromethoxy;

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- A is $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ or $-(\text{CH}_2)_n-$;
 R^2 is methyl or hydroxymethyl;
 R^3 , R^4 , R^5 and R^6 each are independently hydrogen or fluoro;
 n is an integer of 1 or 2; and
5 B is 2-pyridinyl, 3-pyridinyl or 4-pyridinyl.

3. (Original) The compound of claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:
- (S)-3-phenyl-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
10 (S)-3-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(S)-3-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(S)-3-(2,3-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
15 (S)-3-(2,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(S)-3-(2,5-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
20 (S)-3-(2,6-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(S)-3-(3,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(S)-3-(3,5-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
25 (S)-3-(2,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-ethyl}-propionamide;
(S)-3-(3,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-ethyl}-propionamide;
30 (S)-2-(2,5-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acetamide;
(S)-2-(2,6-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acetamide;

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(S)-2-cyclopentyl-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-ethyl}-
acetamide; and

(S)-2-cyclohexyl-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-ethyl}-
acetamide;

5 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition ~~for the treatment of disorders responsive to opening of KCNQ potassium channels~~ comprising a
therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 1 in association with a
10 pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, adjuvant or diluent.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 5~~ A method for the treatment
15 of disorders responsive to opening of the KCNQ potassium channels in a
mammal in need thereof, wherein said disorders are acute and chronic pain,
migraine, neuropathic pain, bipolar disorders, convulsions, mania, epilepsy,
anxiety and depression ~~and neurodegenerative disorders~~, which comprises
administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of the
20 compound of claim 1.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein said disorder is migraine.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein said disorder is neuropathic
25 pain.